Directorate of Human Resources Retirement Services 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd Fort Jackson, SC 29207

Official Business

PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID COLUMBIA, SC PERMIT NO. 248

Fort Jackson Retiree Council Members

COL (R) Mike Molosso (Chair), 9 Whithorn Way, Blythewood, SC 29016 (803) 865-3336

COL (R) Bernard Chapman, Jr., 8 Fallen Leaf Court, Columbia, SC 29229 (803) 865-1651 CAPT (R) L.E. Spradlin, 6709 Kaminer Drive, Columbia, SC 29206 (803) 782-6500, USN

LTC (R) John R. Marcucci, 404 White Birch Circle, Columbia, SC 29223 (803) 736-5041, USMC

LTC (R) Thomas A. McAndrews, 7217 Mountainbrook Drive, Columbia, SC 29209 (803) 776-1756

LTC (R) Israel (Ike) Nezvesky, 121 West Park Shore Drive, Columbia, SC 29223 (803) 788-5909

MAJ (R) Jackie Smalls, 305 Westbrook Way, Lexington, SC 29072 (803) 996-0325

CW5 (R) David A. Ratliff (Secretary), 229 Steeple Drive, Columbia, SC 29229 (803) 865-0120

CSM (R) James W. (Boo) Alford, 308 Percival Road, #1906, Columbia SC 29206 (803) 787-8209, Special Forces Assoc.

CSM (R) Russel Anderson, 108 Healing Springs Road, Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-0878, AUSA, NCO Club

CSM (R) Michael L. Armstead, 221 Worthington Parkway, Columbia, SC 29229 (803) 419-4261

CSM (R) Jesse J. DeBerry. 21 Feather Run Court. Blythewood. SC 29016

MSG (R) Robert W. Barkalow, Jr., 324 Teague Park Court, Columbia, SC 29209 (803) 936-0680, USAF

OSCM (R) James T. Price, 7809 Edgewater Drive, Columbia, SC 29223 (803) 788-0493, Fort Jackson Golf Club Council, USN

SGM (R) Robert B. Price, 1648 Gold Finch Lane, West Columbia, SC 29169 (803) 794-8702, Information Exchange Council. USN

MSGT (R) James W. Rodgers, 636 Park Place, Elgin, SC 29045 (803) 740-2319 TREA, MWR, Health, NCO Club, USAF

Retirement Services Officer: Albert D. Brackett, (803) 751-6715

FORT JACKSON - SOUTH CAROLINA

Retiree Bulletin



VOLUME 1 * 2010

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 FORT JACKSON RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS ISSUE Please see flyer on page 6 for registration information.

From the Chairman

Happy New Year from your Retiree Council! Once again, it's almost time for this year's Retiree Appreciation Days (RAD) events. RAD 2010 will occur Friday and Saturday, 23-24 April 2010. It again promises to be a great opportunity to spend time at Fort Jackson and gain further appreciation for what Fort Jackson does to support you and your Families. Like every year, there will be opportunities to get together socially, renew old friendships, create new ones and gain valuable information regarding the network of support available to you.

the network of support available to you.
On Friday, there will be a Captain's Choice Golf Tournament at 0900 and Victory Bingo at noon. Friday evening will be the Retiree Appreciation Dinner at the O' Club with Medal of Honor Recipient, MG (Ret) James E. Livingston, USMC, honoring us as our guest speaker. Saturday morning will be the annual Retiree Review Ceremony at Darby Field. We are honored this year to have as our Review Speaker the Fort Jackson Post Command Sergeant Major, CSM Brian M. Stall. The Retiree Open House (Expo) will take place Saturday morning at the Solomon Center (CAC) beginning at 0900. New this year at the Expo will be a presentation on current and impending legislation that impacts our retirees, veterans and their Families by MG (Ret) Bill Matz, the President of the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS). In addition, we are moving the No-Tap Bowling Tournament from Friday 1300 to Saturday 1800. For those who have not attended RAD in the past, this year is a great time to start. I strongly encourage all to attend. I think you will be very pleased with your experience. Hope to see you there!

Enclosed in the bulletin is the Retiree Appreciation Days Flyer and sign up form. It provides specific times and locations for the events and where to get additional information. Please take the time to read it thoroughly. The staff is again asking us to send in payments with our RSVP for the Friday evening dinner and the Golf Tournament as soon as possible. This will allow Fort Jackson to better anticipate requirements and support those events. Based on the growing attendance over the last four years, we anticipate space being limited, so those interested should get their RSVPs in as soon

as possible

The Council remains active at Fort Jackson and focused on your issues and needs. We are represented on a variety of Fort Jackson Councils and are active members of the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) process. Our Council's belief is there remains no greater responsibility for a retiree than to help ensure the continued support of the men, women and Families who have so selflessly served their Nation. Whether you retired many years ago or last week, the Retiree Council is here for you and interested in doing its best to represent your interests. We can't promise action or change on each individual issue, but we can assure you that your input will be heard and considered. Please seek us out when you need help or have questions. Our names and numbers are on the back of the bulletin and we'll be visible and available at RAD as

Another way to provide feedback to the installation on the RAD or other retiree issues you deem appropriate is through the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE), which you can access online through the Fort Jackson website homepage or through use of the ICE cards that are located at all key points of service on Fort Jackson. I encourage you to use whatever means you are most comfortable with to ensure that you are heard.

Lastly, please read this bulletin from cover to cover. I'm sure that you will find information of interest that may answer a question you have or provide you with something you can use in your day-to-day lives and travels to Fort Jackson.

These continue to be challenging times for our Soldiers, other Service Members, their Families, and all of our Armed Forces as we continue the Global War on Terrorism. All of us have a story to tell. A great way to continue our service is to find opportunities to tell that story to young men and women, their parents, and the community at large about the positive affects it has had on our lives and Families. Let's do all we can to continue encouraging America's youth to serve.

As always, thanks to BG Bradley May, COL Kevin Shwedo, COL J. R. Sanderson, COL Anita Dixon, COL (Ret) Scott Nahrwold, COL (Ret) Bob Youmans, CSM Chris Culbertson, CSM Brian M. Stall and the entire Garrison Staff; COL Nancy Hughes and the Moncrief Hospital staff and the many other agencies across Fort Jackson for their...

(Continued on page 2)

From the Chairman (Cont. From p. 1)

...continuing support of our community. We greatly appreciate your friendship, support and efforts on our behalf. A special thanks to our Retirement Services Officer, Mr. Al Brackett, for everything you do for our community each day. One last thanks to Lt. Col. (Ret) John Marcucci, USMC, for all the hard work and support you are providing the Council, Fort Jackson and our retirees. Thanks John. We couldn't do it without you.

My sincere appreciation goes out to each of you for your service to our Nation and your continued support of its interests. You and your Families have much to be proud of. The legacy of excellence and service that you left behind is embodied in today's outstanding leaders and Service Members. They protect us, our Nation and its interests around the world, most visibly, in Iraq and Afghanistan. Don't forget to say a prayer for all those great Americans in harm's way and their Families. Thanks again to every retiree and your Families for all you have done and continue to do to support our Armed Forces, our Community and our Nation. It is a privilege to serve you.

Have a great spring and summer. I'll look forward to seeing you at our Retiree Appreciation Days events in April. God Bless you, your Families and the United States of America.

Mike Molosso, Col, USA, Retired

ACAP

The Army Career and Alumni Program provides world-class transition and job assistance services to Soldiers and civilian employees and their Family Members. Your Fort Jackson ACAP Center offers assistance with resumes, cover letters, federal jobs, job applications, practice interviews, job listings and job research libraries and personalized counseling. As an Army Retiree, you and your eligible Family Members are eligible for ACAP Services for a lifetime. "ACAP Express" allows retirees to utilize enhanced ACAP services and counselor support. Retirees may utilize ACAP Express by logging in at the website at https://www.acapexpress.army.mil.

Additional information is available by calling 803-751-4109 or utilizing the ACAP On-Line web site at http://www.acap.army.mil. You may visit your Fort Jackson ACAP Center for services at 4600 Strom Thurmond Boulevard in the Army Education Center, Room A200, Monday-Friday, 0730-1615.

Customer **Management Services**

The Customer Management Services have received the results of the FY09 Customer Management Services Assessment. The assessment was conducted during the four week period of 21 Aug – 21 Sep 09. The yearly assessment is an integral tool utilized by IMCOM and Fort Jackson to evaluate customer perceptions of services. Military personnel, civilian employees, Family Members, retirees, veterans, and contractors were provided an opportunity to give their feedback to services and programs on Fort Jackson. The total number of participants was 574 of which 145 retirees participated and provided their feedback.

Areas rated the highest in their performance and importance for retirees are:

Directorate of Human Resources

- ★ Personnel Services (ID cards, DEERS,
- ★ Post Secondary Educational Programs
- ★ Pre-Transition Services
- **★** Education Counseling
- ★ Casualty Operations

Directorate of Family & Morale, Welfare & Recreation (DFMWR)

- ★ Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)
- ★ Community Information Services
- ★ Leisure Travel
- ★ Library Services
- **★** Outdoor Recreation

Directorate of Emergency Services (DES)

- ★ Fire and Emergency Services
- ★ Law Enforcement Operations
- ★ Physical Security

Special Staff

- * Religious Services
- ★ Legăl Assistance
- ★ Tax Assistance
- ★ Safetv

The Fort Jackson Leadership would like to thank all of the retirees who participated in this assessment. Your feedback will ensure we keep striving for excellence in all the services provided to our retiree community.

Retiree Bulletin FORT JACKSON

MWR

Army Family Covenant Update Respite Care available through EFMP By Theresa O'Hagan

Caring for a loved one with special physical, emotional or mental needs can put a strain on not only the caregiver, but other members of the Family as well. Through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and the Army Family Covenant, Families enrolled in EFMP can now get up to 40 hours a month of respite care. "Respite care funds are available to Family Members with special needs who are enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and who meet specific medical criteria," said Cheryl Jackson, Chief, EFMP. "The Soldier or spouse can contact Army Community Service EFMP staff for an assessment and obtain the enrollment and medical forms needed to apply". Respite care provides temporary relief to both Families and caregivers, thus allowing them to rest and relax; engage in other daily activities; cope with additional daily responsibilities; and grow and stabilize the Family unit. In addition, respite care services can be targeted to specific disabilities. Respite care is available both on and off post and is able to provide care for a variety of needs.

EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program designed to inform the Department of the Army of Family Members with special needs. The program works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated community support. Housing, educational, medical and personnel services are also available to Families with special needs. An Exceptional Family Member is any qualifying Family Member, child or adult, with any physical, emotional, developmental or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling. Fort Jackson has approximately 1,200 Family Members with special needs. Army wide there are more than 100,000 Family Members enrolled in

EFMP can assist Soldiers and Family Members with the following:

- ★ Finding post and community special needs services, programs and activities (to include summer camps)
- ★ Training classes and workshops
- ★ Linking Families with similar special needs together
- * Respite care
- ★ Information on public laws
- ★ EFMP support group and links to other support groups in the local community
- ★ Information and links to services at other installations
- * Assistance with exception to policy for
- ★ Early intervention referrals
- ★ Service coordination for individualized education plans (IEP)

For more information on EFMP or respite care, call Army Community Service at 751-5256 or visit www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/efm or www.myarmylifetoo.com.

Preventive Health Services in Adults						
Test	Age (years)	How Often				
Blood Pressure (Hypertension)	18 and older	Every office visit or yearly				
Cholesterol (Hyperlipidemia)	35 and older	Every 5 years if levels are normal				
Mammogram (Breast Cancer)	40 and older (women)	Every year				
Pap Smear (Cervical Cancer)	21 and older (women) Sooner if sexually active	Every 1-3 years				
Chlamydia (Chlamydial Infection)	25 or younger (women) If sexually active	Yearly until age 26				
Colonoscopy (Colon Cancer)	50 and older	Every 5-10 years if normal				
Stool Occult Blood (Colon Cancer)	50 and older	Every year				
Bone Mineral Density (Osteoporosis)	65 and older (women)	Periodically				

FORT JACKSON 2010 RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS FRIDAY APRIL 23rd & SATURDAY APRIL 24TH **SATURDAY** FRIDAY RETIREE RECOGNITION BASIC COMBAT TRAINING GRADUATION CEREMONY Hilton Field, 9 a.m. Call IOC at 751-5166/5167 in case of inclement weather. **GOLF TOURNAMENT*** Brian M. Stall Ft Jackson Golf Club - 9 a.m. Start * Captain's Choice \$35 Member, \$45 Non-Member & Guest

Includes: cart and user fees, snacks, prize fund, BBQ lunch, range and green fees for non-members . Plus door prizes! Call FJGC 787-4437 for details

VICTORY BINGO MIDDAY MADNESS SESSION!

Victory Bingo - Buy 4 Cards for \$1.00! Doors open at 11 a.m. - Games begin at 12 p.m. \$5 Buffet from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

AAFES IN STORE SALE at the main PX

COMMISSARY SIDEWALK SALE 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ft Jackson Officers' Club - 6:15 p.m. cocktails 7:00 p.m. dinner * Live Music * \$14.95 per person Guest Speaker - Marine Major General (Retired) James E. Livingston

Coat & Tie for Men; Appropriate Dress for Women; Call 751-4906 for details and ticket information



To register online, please visit: https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/ webtrac/Jacksonrectrac.html

*Reserve your Tickets early, spaces are limited.

CEREMONY

9:00 a.m. * Darby Field

Static Displays * Light refreshments served **Guest Speaker - Post Command Sergeant Major**

Call IOC at 751-5166/5167 after 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 23rd, in case of inclement weather.

RETIREE EXPO 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Solomon Center, Strom Thurmond Blvd. NAUS Presentation by Major General (Retired) William Matz **Displays * Information Booths * Discounts** Refreshments Served * Plus door prizes!

> Agencies Represented Include: Combat Related Special Compensation * Tricare Social Security * Vet Clinic * Medicare Vehicle Registration (Bring driver's license, proof of insurance, military ID, and vehicle registration) MWR * AAFES * Commissary * Delta Dental SC Dept of Veterans Affairs * Dorn VA Hospital Dentac * TREA * Defense Finance & Accounting Armed Forces Retirement Home * AER * SJA NAUS * Customer Management Services * AUSA Fort Jackson National Cemetary * ID Card Services (call 751-7731 for ID Card Information)

> > AAFES IN STORE SALE at the main PX

S

No-Tap Bowling Tournament* Century Lanes Bowling Center - 5 - 6 p.m. Registration 6 p.m. Start * \$15 includes shoe rental and prizes Note: No-Tap simply means that the first ball thrown will count as a strike if 8 pins fall (for women) and 9 pins fall (for men). Plus door prizes! Call 751-6138 for details

Retiree Appreciation Days - Ft Jackson, South Carolina

MWR Business Operations, 3392 Magruder Ave., Ft Jackson, SC 29207						
Full Name:	ne: Rank:					
Address:		City:				
State:	Zip:	Phone:	Email:			
Spouse/guest nar	me:					
Golf Tourney	yes r	o handicap spouse/guest	yes no handicap _			
Bowling Tourney	yes ı	no spouse/guest yes no	_			
Dinner	yes n	o spouse/guest yes no	-			
If you would like to pay by credit card, please complete the following:						
Name on card		Expiration date	Circle type of card	: Visa / MC / AE		

Need a hotel room? Call Victory Travel 1-800-221-3503 or (803) 751-5812 for special government rates.

*Make check payable to MWR. You can also register at the Golf Club, NCO Club, Officers' Club and Century Lanes.

Retiree Bulletin

FORT JACKSON

Medical

Urgent Care Clinic (UCC)

Moncrief Army Hospital does not have an Emergency Room. In the event of a true emergency. you should call 911 or proceed to the nearest Emergency Room at a local hospital. The MACH Urgent Care Clinic is an outpatient walk-in clinic. We service active duty, Family Members and retirees who need same day care for acute minor illnesses. We care for common illnesses such as colds, flu, minor sprains and strains, broken bones, simple cuts and other acute minor illnesses for which you would see your family doctor on a same day acute visit. We are not an Emergency Room; therefore, cannot provide emergency services. We do not have the capability to care for symptoms such as chest pain, stroke symptoms, heart palpitations, shortness of breath, major cuts, or profound bleeding. These are emergency symptoms that should be seen promptly in your local emergency department.

Moncrief Pharmacy

Q: What is the best time to pick up a prescription at the main Pharmacy so that I don't have to wait that long?

A: Mondays, Fridays and Saturday mornings are the best times to pick up a prescription quickly. The hours of 1000 through 1400 are busiest throughout the week.

TRICARE Continues to Offer Select **OTC Medication at Zero Copay**

Positive feedback and cost savings means TRICARE's over-the-counter medication demonstration continues without copayments. The demonstration allows TRICARE beneficiaries to substitute overthe-counter versions for selected prescription drugs. Over-the-counter (OTC) medications available through the program include allergy medications cetirizine and loratadine, and heartburn medications (proton-pump inhibitors) Prilosec OTC and its generic form omeprazole. The two-year OTC demonstration did not require a copay for covered OTC medications when it began at TRICARE retail pharmacies in October 2007. "This is a very positive program and we're excited to return to zero copay," said Rear Adm. Thomas McGinnis, Chief of the TRICARE Pharmaceutical Operations Directorate. "This is one way we are working hard to keep costs lower - for our beneficiaries and for the Department of Defense." For more information about the TRICARE Pharmacy Program, go to

http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy.

The TRICARE Management Activity is

introducing significant new enhancements to beneficiaries as it combines its mail-order and retail pharmacy contracts into one new contract called TRICARE Pharmacy. The improvements to the TRICARE Pharmacy program include the Specialty Medication Care Management program in the mail-order pharmacy, expansion of the Member Choice Center providing assistance to help beneficiaries to switch their military treatment facility prescriptions to mail-order, and a new call center

phone number (1-877-363-1303).

The Specialty Medication Care Management program is for beneficiaries using the mail-order pharmacy for their specialty medications. It is structured to improve their health through continuous health evaluations, ongoing monitoring, assessment of educational needs, and management of medication use. "TRICARE beneficiaries will be pleased to know that to get this improved benefit they don't have to do anything," said Rear Adm. Thomas McGinnis, TRICARE Management Activity's chief pharmacy officer. "No calls, no paperwork." Beneficiaries don't have to re-enroll, all co-pays stay the same and the network remains essentially unchanged." Express Scripts, Inc. was selected to provide mail-order, retail and specialty pharmacy services for the TRICARE Pharmacy program. This program will provide outpatient prescription drugs to 9.5 million beneficia-

For more information, visit www.tricare.mil/ pharmacy or www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE or call 1-877-363-1303. To read the TRICARE Pharmacy article, visit http://www.tricare.mil/ pressroom/press article.aspx?fid=471

TRICARE Standard Pays to be Preventive

Obtaining clinical preventive services helps

prevent illness before major health problems occur. Section 711 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2009 encourages eligible TRICARE Standard beneficiaries to use preventive health services by waiving all cost shares for certain services starting 1 Sep 10. These services include screenings for colorectal cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer and prostate cancer; immunizations, and well-child visits for children less than 6 years of age. Also, for all beneficiaries over age 6, when a visit to a health care provider includes one or more of the benefits listed above, the cost share for the visit is waived. However, other services provided during the same visit are subject to cost shares and deductibles. "Early disease detection and chronic condition management programs result in the prevention of long term health conditions and add savings for beneficiaries and the government in the long term." said Navy Rear Adm. Christine S. Hunter, Deputy Director of the TRICARE Management Activity. "It's a great new benefit under TRICARE Standard". The cost share waiver applies to Non-Medicare eligible,...

Continued on Page 4

Medical (Continued from page 3)

..TRICARE Standard or Extra beneficiaries. Beneficiaries enrolled in TRICARE Prime are unaffected, since they do not have copayments for preventive services. Medicare-eligible beneficiaries are covered by TRICARE For Life (TFL), which generally pays the remainder of any costs not paid under Medicare to include payments for the listed preventive services. However, preventive services and all immunizations not covered by Medicare require TRICARE Standard cost shares and deductibles for TFL beneficiaries. Criteria such as age, frequency of care and Family history have to be met in order to waive cost shares for the six clinical preventive services. All other preventive services not included in the services listed in Section 711 are subject to cost shares and deductibles. This benefit can be applied to any services received on or after 14 Oct 08. Beneficiaries can request reimbursement for services received after 14 Oct 08 and before the implementation date of 1

Reimbursement requests can be made by phone or in writing to the region where the beneficiary lives. For South Carolina residents contact:

South Region Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. 1-800-444-5445

Requests submitted in writing to the regional claims processor should include the sponsor's social security number, full names and dates of birth of all dependents and current mailing address. For written requests contact:

South Region Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. P.O. Box 7032 Camden, SC 29020-7032

Splash and Save at Palmetto Falls

FOIL 3

Fort Jackson's Family Water Park!

Open: Tuesday - Saturday

& Holidays 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Sunday 1 p.m. - 7 p.m.

RETIREE PRICES
Single Daily\$4.50
Single Season.....\$60
Family Season*...\$130

For more information call (803) 751-3381

 $^{\star}\text{Covers}$ family of 4, each additional family member is \$5 for Affiliated and \$24.95 for Non-Affiliated.

FMWR IS ONLINE!

To find information on everything FMWR has to offer, please visit...

www.fortjacksonmwr.com



FMWR is also on Facebook!

To become a fan, just visit the FMWR website and click the Facebook link.

ACS and SOS

Do you have a friend or know someone?

Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) is the Army's commitment to Families of our Fallen Comrades. The mission of SOS is to provide holistic and multi-agency approach to ensuring that all Survivors receive any services or information that they may need in the local area where they reside.

The SOS can provide you with a Financial Counselor, Benefits Counselor, and a SOS Coordinator. We are more than happy to provide assistance to you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach us at (803) 751-4867/5256 or send an email to <a href="less: less: le

Help keep Fort Jackson Safe Safety Hotline

751-SAFE (7233)

All reports will be investigated. All reports are anonymous.

Contact Us Safety Switchboard: 751-6004 Garrison Division: 751-2541/4325 Mission Division: 751-2542/7599

FORT JACKSON LEADER

Stay informed on Fort Jackson events and issues by visiting www.jackson.army.mil or access The Leader Online at www.fortjacksonleader.com

Retiree Bulletin

FORT JACKSON

Housing

On-post housing at Fort Jackson is now open to military retirees as well as Department of Defense (DOD) and Federal Employees. Balfour Beatty Communities took over on-post housing from the Army on August 1, 2008 in accordance with the Residential Communities Initiative Program. With a surplus of two and three bedroom homes and occupancy lower than projected, Balfour Beatty Communities and Fort Jackson has decided to open the housing up to military retirees, DoD and Federal Employees. At this time, only the vintage houses will be up for lease; no new houses will be offered. Homes are available for immediate occupancy with no security deposit and no application fee for a limited time.

For more information about the leasing program, contact Balfour Beatty Communities at (803)738-8275 or come to the Community Center located at 520 Brown Avenue.

CAC and SOS

The SOS initiative and establishment of the CAC were recommended by the SOS Advisory Panel to the Chief of Staff, Army (CSA) to improve the quality/delivery of casualty and support programs services provided to the spouses and/or survivors of our Fallen Comrades. The Advisory Panel also recommended the addition of a Benefits Coordinator and Training Instructor to our CACs Army-wide to assist survivors in navigating the complex array of benefits and entitlements and provide specialized training for the CAC staff, Casualty Assistance Officers (CAOs) and Casualty Notification Officers (CNOs).

In October 2009, our CAC, DHR's part of the SOS initiative, moved into its newly refurbished office which is located in room 212 on the second floor of the Strom Thurmond Building. We are very excited about the improvements to our CAC. One improvement in particular is the addition of what we call "touchdown stations". The touchdown stations are cubicles, which measure five feet by four feet. They are used by the CNOs/CAOs and NCOICs of the funeral honors teams to finalize appropriate reports and checklists. Additionally, since we are now required to provide longterm (indefinite) vice short-term casualty assistance to survivors of active duty Soldiers, CAOs are free to use these spaces as they perform these duties. Also located in the CAC is our Benefits Coordinator. The Benefits Coordinator assists survivors in obtaining benefits from the various on and off post agencies. By design, our Benefits Coordinator is also just a few steps away from the CAO touchdown stations to answer questions as needed. We are confident that our

customers will appreciate these quality improvements and the long-term services that are now being provided. Below is a list of the new positions within our CAC, their responsibilities and how they assist the survivors of our Fallen Comrades:

Casualty Operations Coordinator: The primary responsibility of the Casualty Operations Coordinator is to report all active duty, retiree, and veteran deaths to Department of the Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operation Center (CMAOC) via the Defense Casualty Information Processing System (DCIPS). Additionally, the Casualty Operations Coordinator assists Families with authorized travel to appropriate venues as deemed necessary by CMAOC.

Memorial Affairs Coordinator: The primary responsibility of the Memorial Affairs Coordinator is to process active duty, retiree, and veteran military funeral honors requests. The CAC normally receives and processes an average of over 100 military funeral honors requests monthly from funeral homes in our area of operation which is comprised of 29 counties in the state of South Carolina.

Benefits Coordinator: The primary responsibility of the Benefits Coordinator is to assist active-duty death survivors in processing benefits and entitlements claims and providing contact references for as long as assistance is needed.

Training Instructor: The primary responsibility of the Training Instructor is to train CAC staff in administrative procedures and Soldiers to assume the roles of CNO and CAO.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Don Johnson, phone: 751-5763, or email: donald.l.johnson@us.army.mil.

2010 Army Emergency Relief Annual Fund-raising Campaign

Army Emergency Relief's (AER) mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families. Across the Army, AER assists active and retired Soldiers with a wide array of assistance to include rent, utilities, food, vehicle repair, and other emergencies. Assistance is always provided as a no interest loan, grant, or combination of the two.

The Army-wide AER will conduct its annual fundraising campaign for 2010 from 1 March to 15 May. The purpose of the campaign is to create greater awareness of AER's programs and benefits and to give Soldiers (active & retired) the opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers. In FY09, the Fort Jackson AER office assisted 956 Soldiers and Families with \$1,087,519.

AER is about Soldiers Helping Soldiers; please consider contributing to AER this year. For more information on AER's assistance programs, contact Angela Crosland, Fort Jackson AER Specialist, at (803) 751-5256 or visit the AER website at www.aerhq.org.